

Navy, Negroes in - 1938

# Norfolk Has Only Training School For Messmen In U. S. Navy

## U. S. Navy Mess Attendants Hold Graduation

Recreation Plays  
Large Part  
In Training

**EDITORS' NOTE:**—The following article on the training of colored enlisted men for duty in the Messmen's Branch of the U. S. Navy was written especially for the Journal and Guide by Lieut. J. R. Harrison. The article is timely because of the nationwide celebration of Navy Day on Thursday of last week.

By J. S. HARRISON  
Lieutenant, U. S. Navy

The Navy's only school for training colored enlisted men for duty in the Messman Branch of this division of the National defense is located at the Naval Training Station, Norfolk.

Colored applicants for enlistment in the Messman Branch are accepted from every section of the United States. At the present time enlistments are being made at the rate of ninety men per month. These men all come to Norfolk, are organized into classes, and undergo intensive training for a period of three months.

Training is carried out under two general divisions — military training, and training in the special duties of messmen. Military training consists of daily infantry drill, manual of arms, boat drill, chamber instruction, care of their clothing outfits, salutes, and other military courtesies.

Training in their duties as messmen includes instruction in setting up and serving officers' messes, fundamentals of cooking, pantry service, preparation of menus, care of officers' staterooms and officers' uniform outfits; also selection and laying out of appropriate uniforms for various official functions.

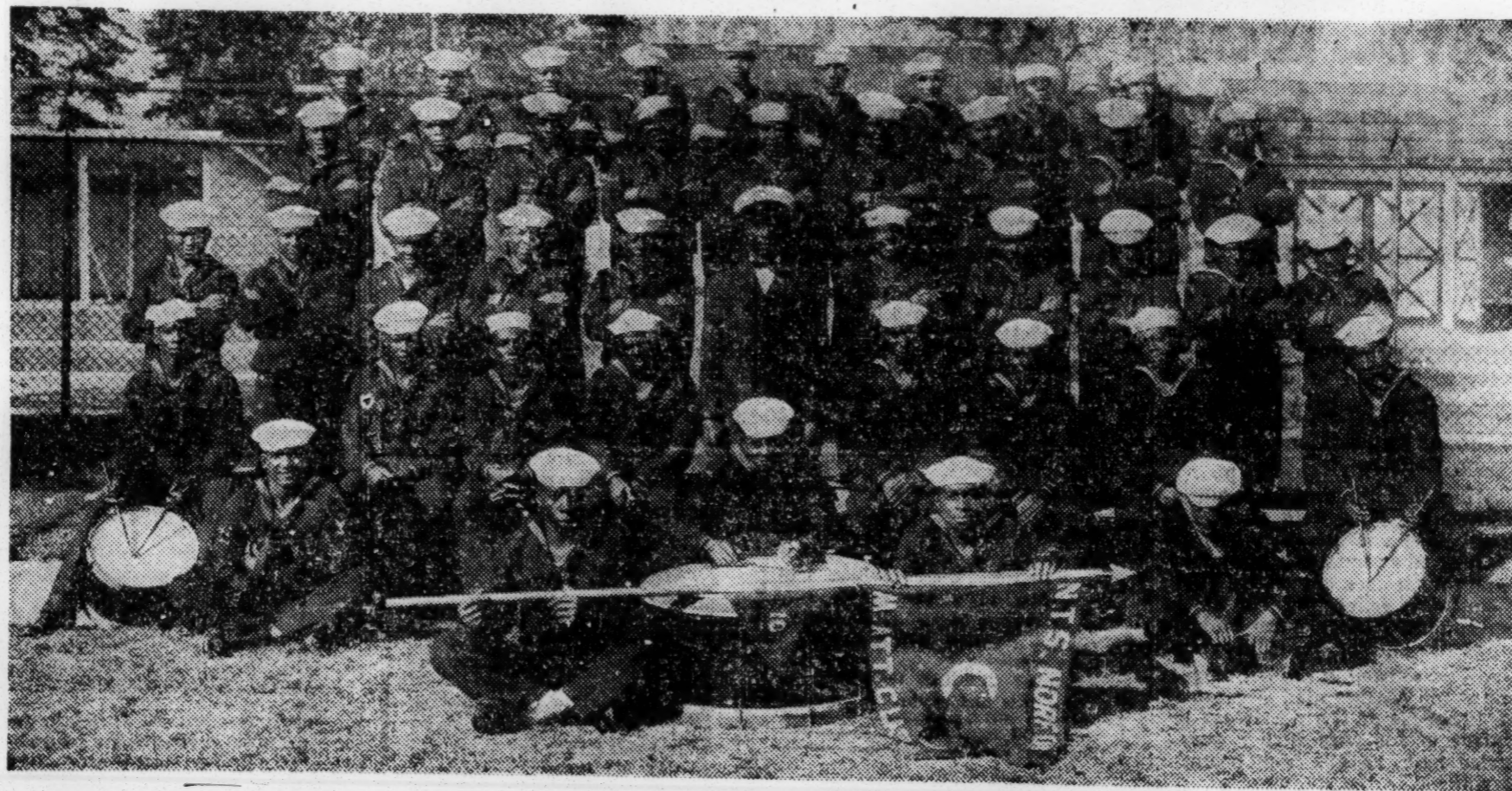
### NAVY QUALIFICATIONS

Qualifications for enlistment are as follows:

Be a U. S. citizen, from 18 to 25 years of age, and in excellent physical condition.

Be unmarried, furnish excellent character and employment references, and have no police record.

Be able to read, write, and do



Members of No. 10 graduating class, mess attendants, third class, Naval Training Station, are shown above with J. E. Alston, officers' steward, first class instructor. Publication of the photo is especially timely in view of the nationwide celebration of Navy Day on Thursday of last week.

Shown, first row, sitting, left to right: T. Freeman, J. R. Casey, A. Elliott. Second row, sitting, left to right: W. L. Brown, W. L. Rainey, A. Smith, S. Burke, A. L. Morton, W. Q. Kelly, C. E. Tate, J.

problems in simple arithmetic. Prior hotel, restaurant, or domestic service is given consideration in considering qualifications.

The men in training at Norfolk have excellent recreation facilities. A swimming pool is provided and all men must qualify in swimming prior to graduation. They engage in inter-class competition in all popular sports.

At the present time they have organized a very fine choir and two quartets; and from time to time are invited to sing in local churches and to broadcast over local radio sta-

tions. On Navy Day, October 27th, visitors to the Naval Training Station were cordially invited to visit the Training Unit for these colored boys and see their excellent classroom equipment, mess hall, living accommodations, and recreational facilities.

C. Minnis, W. Washington, J. R. Pickens.

First row, standing, left to right: J. Calloway, N. Crawford, J. R. Stanley, T. L. Williams, D. L. Wilburn, L. S. Tapp, L. Mitchell, J. R. Jenkins, T. Cornish, J. H. Black. Second row, standing, left to right: T. Isabell, H. H. Ray, J. J. Mackey, W. B. Kimble, J. Talton, J. M. Hines, R. G. Van Leer, R. Lay, J. A. Pack. Third row, standing, left to right: J. W. Snider, W. G. Simpson, C. Hagar, P. L. Laffon, R. L. Holland, F. Allen, J. B. Knox, J. P. Washington.

Code: A. Times  
November 9, 1938

### COLORED RECRUITS SOUGHT FOR NAVY

The United States Navy is now very much in need of colored applicants, Dewey W. Vincent, naval recruiting officer, announced today, and those interested in joining should contact him at room 306 in the Anniston postoffice building.

In order to qualify applicants must be between the ages of 18 and 26 years, must have a grammar school education and must be

able to pass a physical examination.

# He Learns What To Expect From Navy!

Eugene Pitts, a fine intelligent, courageous youth, until last Tuesday had all of the usual illusions about the greatness of democracy of America.

He had a consuming ambition to serve his country—to travel foreign waters—to learn a trade. Talking all of this over with a white pal, he decided to join the United States Navy. They would go adventuring together.

With hearts full of hope and excitement, the two lads trekked to the Naval registration headquarters in Brooklyn last Tuesday. Mr. Pitts was one of two Negro lads present at that time. With about twenty-five white boys they listened intently to an inspiring speech about the Navy—what it meant to youth to serve this great, democratic country—what the Navy had to offer the youth of America.

"The Navy offers 110,784 training courses conducted aboard ship," they were told.

Bulletins describing the courses were passed out to all of the recruits—that is with the exception of young Pitts and the other Negro youth. Passing them a different slip of paper, the officer said:

"This is the only course you can take."

Young Pitts looked at the form. He couldn't believe his eyes.

"Information for colored men regarding enlistment in the Messman Branch of the United States Navy," the slip of paper read.

This couldn't happen here, he said to himself. Wasn't this America, where everyone is "created free and equal?" And was he not an American citizen ready to die for his fair country.

But it could happen here.

In a spirit of righteous protest Mr. Pitts told the recruiting officers that he was interested in some other trade. But he was informed that the Messman's Branch was the only branch of the service open to him.

"It burned me up when I found my white pal could take anything he wanted and I was told that all I could do was to learn to be a servant," Mr. Pitts told The Amsterdam News.

He said that he had wanted to join the Navy because he hadn't been able to finish school and he thought that this would be a good way to take up a trade, and with four years of Navy experience, it would be easy for him to get a job. He had already had two years

between the ages of 18 and 26 years, inclusive, and unmarried. All applicants are enlisted for terms of four years with first enlistments authorized only in the rating of Mess Attendant Third Class, with monthly pay of \$21.00 together with free clothing outfit, lodging, rations and medical and dental care.

## A Secure Future

An enlisted man can, after a stipulated number of years of service, retire with regular monthly pay, constituting a certain percent of the original salary received when in actual service. The amount of pay received upon retirement varies with the rank of the individual. Circulars distributed by recruiting offices declare: "The Navy holds out to the man who is worthy and who desires to follow it as a career, increase in pay, and an assured future."

"No doubt the intolerable conditions existing in the United States Navy, such as segregation, discrimination and limitation of civil rights for Negroes have not been brought to your attention."

"The Negro people have fought bravely and fearlessly to help preserve and build this great democratic country which has in turn, closed its doors in our faces. . . . I am referring to the 184 training courses offered in the mechanical schools of the United States Navy. Out of all of these courses, the Negro is not allowed to study any of them. The Messman's Branch is the only one in which he is accepted."

"How can you expect Negroes to remain loyal to a country in time of war when in peace you refuse them their constitutional rights and accept them only as servants, denying them the privilege of learning a trade or studying any of the thousands of courses offered for further advancement? . . ."

"As an applicant, I appeal to you on behalf of hundreds of would-be applicants to wipe out discrimination in the United States Navy. . . . Make the Navy an institution for American citizens, all upholding a common cause to preserve the great American ideal."

## U. S. Navy Calls for Negro Men

Another call is being made by the U. S. Naval Recruiting office of Oklahoma City for Negro applicants for service in the messman branch of the United States Navy. The Oklahoma City recruiting office, located in room 335, Post Office Building, reserves Wednesdays of each week for Negro applicants and their physical and mental examinations. The applicant for this service must apply in person and must be

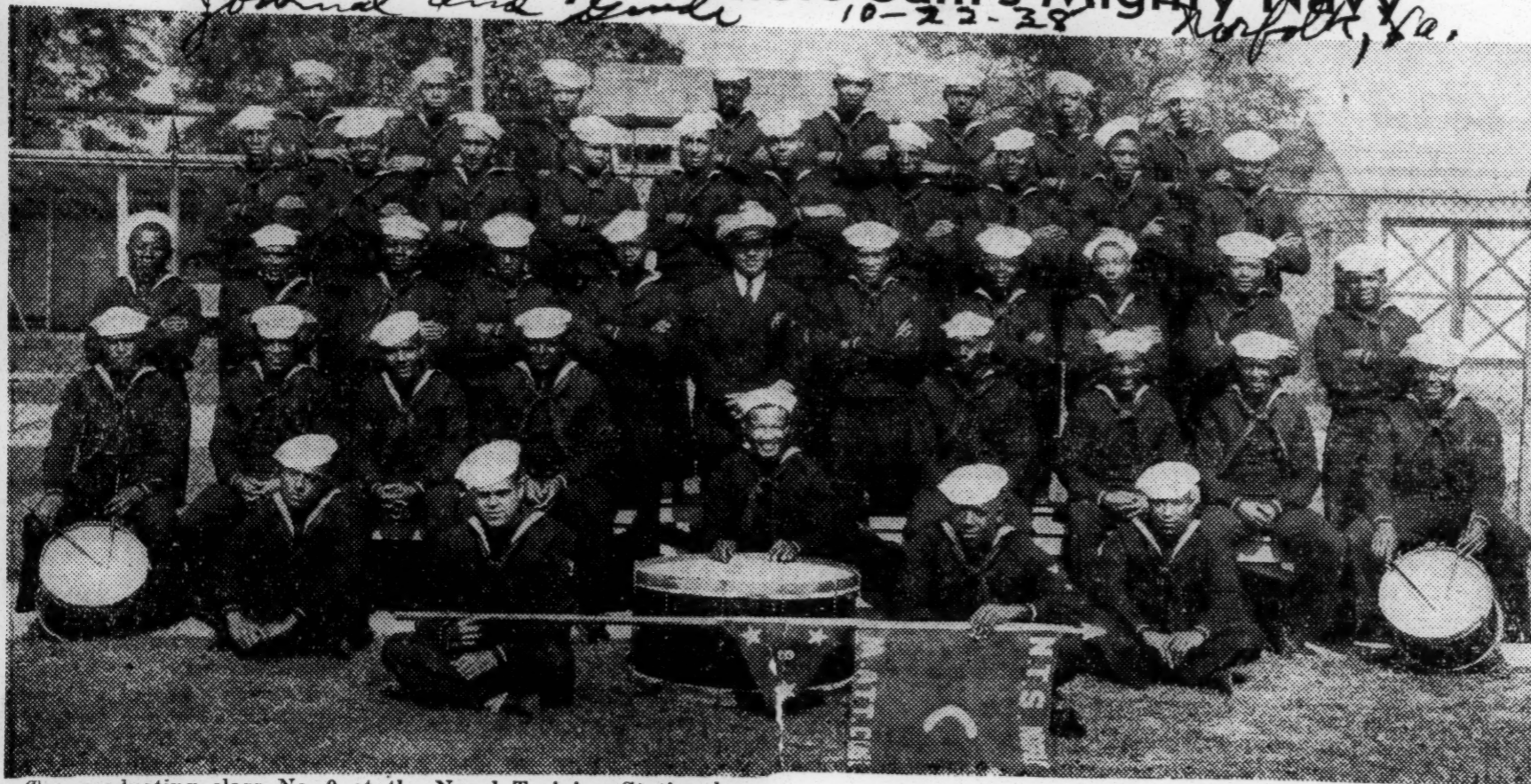
Navy, Negroes in - 1938

## Ready for Duty In Uncle Sam's Mighty Navy

*Journal and Guide*

10-22-38

Norfolk, Va.



The graduating class No. 9 at the Naval Training Station here, which completed on October 6 the work preparatory to assignment to naval vessels and shore stations. These young men, enrolled as mess-men, come from twenty of the 48 states, with Virginia leading with seven.. Six members of the class come from North Carolina. Four of the graduates come from each of the following states—Louisiana, Ohio, Arkansas, Texas, and Illinois. Among the other states represented are Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, Indiana, New York, and West Virginia. The class won first place in drilling and soft ball in competition with other units in training.

In the picture, left to right, first row: J. Brown, right guide; R. Spicer, master of arms; N. Howard, bass drummer; R. H. McKoy, company clerk; C. D. Spark, left guide.

Second row: S. W. Price, drummer; E. Watson, J. I. Poche, E. L. Vaults, H. J. House, I. L. Sullivan, W. R. Cox, and H. May.

Third row: W. T. Bailey, H. L. Hall, J. H. Smith, S. Taylor, A. Clay, J. C. Nicholas, E. A. Gaines, E. V. Johnson, L. Miller, and N. Miller.

Fourth row: V. T. Washington, S. D. Williamson, G. W. Lessane, H. N. Fraser, A. Smith, R. Parks, J. Young, J. E. Grace, S. Cravens, and E. Wilkins.

Back row: E. Stubbs, J. Martin, C. Spicer, P. Hulbert, J. Motley, C. R. A. Wright, C. E. Braxton, and J. S. Stinson.

This class was under the supervision of J. Southall (O. S. 1st class), instructor. They will leave Friday, October 14, for their vacation, before being assigned aboard cruisers or battleships.

Navy, Negroes in - 1938

Milton, Fla., Gazette  
August 11, 1938

## ENLISTMENTS OPEN IN NAVY TO NEGRO MEN

Applications Now Being Accepted  
At Naval Recruiting Station In  
Mobile For Colored Men Be-  
tween 18 and 26 Years.

Mobile, Aug. 11.—The U. S. Navy Recruiting Substation, located in the New Custom House Building, Mobile, Alabama, is accepting applications for enlistment in the U. S. Navy from desirable colored boys between the ages of 18 and 26 years.

Applicants are required to pass a strict physical and mental examination, have written consent of parents or legal guardian, have no police or juvenile Court record (except minor infractions not involving moral turpitude), be able to furnish the names and addresses of five reputable citizens of the community in which they live, (no relatives) who have known the applicant for at least two years, from whom satisfactory character references can be obtained. They must make application in person and furnish authentic evidence of date of birth.

All colored men accepted are enlisted as mess attendant third class and sent to the Mess Attendants School at Norfolk, Virginia for a course of instructions, upon completion of which they are transferred to general service. After one year service in each rating they are eligible for advancement to the next higher rating to fill vacancies as they exist. Pay in the Messman branch of the Navy ranges from \$21.00 to \$105.00 per month and when it is considered that this pay is practically "Velvet" with board, doctor and hospital, free movies and entertainment aboard ship, furnished without charge and a future that is secure, it is really something to look forward to.

All enlistments are made for general service and no promise or assur-

ance can be given an applicant that he will be assigned to any particular detail or duty.

A man may transfer to the Fleet Naval Reserve upon completion of twenty years service and receive one-half of his base pay per month. At the end of ten years in the Naval Reserve, making a combined total of thirty years service, he is placed on the retired list and, if he held the rating of Officers Cook or Steward First Class at time of transfer to the Fleet Naval Reserve, he would receive one-half his base pay (\$42.00) plus all permanent additions (\$21.00) plus

allowances for quarters, heat and light (\$15.75) making a total of \$78.75 monthly. Of course such pay is entirely in addition to what the man may obtain by his own efforts as the Navy makes no demands on the Fleet Naval Reservist except in

a case of war or national emergency, beyond the stipulation that not over two months active duty may be required in each four year period. The Navy guarantees a secure future, can you afford to pass it up? The Navy holds out to the man who is worthy and who desires to follow it as a career, increase in pay, and an assured future. Death, disability or old age need have no terrors for the man who wears the service stripes on his sleeve.

Andalusia, Ala., Star  
August 18, 1938

Negro Boys Between  
Ages of 18 and 26  
Wanted By Navy

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Gross Appointed  
to Navy Yard

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Sept. 8 — Institute authorities were informed this week of the appointment of William E. Gross, a former student of Tuskegee Institute, as a helper at the Navy Yard. Gross is highly regarded for his ability as a carpenter and his assignment to a job other than as a helper in the carpenter shop of the Yard, is the first that has been made, it is said.

Mr. Gross lives at 523 Twenty-third place, Washington and he has been employed as a general helper in the shops since March. His recent appointment was announced after he had successfully passed a civil service examina-

## A YOUNG NEGRO SPEAKS

Congressman Joseph A. Gavagan has recently appointed a young Harlem colored man, Eliotte Williams, to the United States Naval Academy.

We like the spirit of Eliotte Williams in seeking and accepting the appointment and determining to buck and overcome the formidable barriers of color prejudice at Annapolis.

"I haven't just been picked for this assignment," he says, "I picked this assignment. What I am going in for is of my own choosing . . . I made the final decision that I would not let my Negro blood prevent me from even attempting a career that I felt should be mine if I worked diligently. I planned my course in school accordingly."

This is a new and welcome kind of young Negro speaking, and we wish there were more of his kind than there are.

He knows what he wants, prepared himself to get it and is willing and eager to do whatever has to be done to achieve it.

It is our observation that far too many of our young people are uncertain about what they plan to do as a life's work.

They are not prepared WELL to do ANYTHING because of this very uncertainty about what they should do; and as a result they do not possess that dogged determination necessary to success.

Too many of our young men and women are deliberately seeking the easiest way, depending on "pull" or "influence," as-looking always for a soft berth regardless of where the berth may be.

They come out of school expressing a willingness to "do anything," but it soon develops that they cannot do anything WELL because they haven't prepared themselves to do any ONE thing well.

Far too many of these young people are trying to avoid race prejudice and discrimination in their choice of a job, but young Williams is deliberately choosing a vocation where he will encounter it daily, instead of ducking into one of the old established "easy" fields for Negroes.

Race prejudice and discrimination cannot be avoided by Negroes in this country no matter what vocation they choose, so our young men and women should busy themselves not trying to escape but in steeling themselves to meet and surmount these allied evils.

At the same time, and in view of the fact that so many colored men and women have won high place despite race prejudice and discrimination, we must recognize that failure to make good is not always due to these causes.

Hard work, aided by competence, courage and courtesy, will gain recognition and reward anywhere and anytime, whereas laziness, ignorance, inefficiency and cowardice will not.

The salvation of our people lies in competent and courageous young people like Elliotte Williams who are willing to fight against odds and who believe they will win.

# Congressman From 22nd District Makes History By Moving Toward Appointment Of Negro To Annapolis

*Cleveland, Ohio, Eagle 9-16-38*  
*9-16-38*

The most sensational political news ever to break in the Twenty-Second Congressional District was released Tuesday by Congressman Anthony A. Fieger, when in an interview with a reporter of THE EAGLE the Congressman announced his definite intention to meet with a group of representative Race citizens at the earliest opportunity for the purpose of selecting a qualified Negro youth for nomination to the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis.

In the interview at the Congressman's office in the new Post Office building, he advised that he was sending out letters to a num-



CONGRESSMAN A. A. FIEGER

ber of representative Negroes in the city, inviting them to a meeting in his office as the first step in his plan to carry out his pur-

pose.

The term of the proposed Naval Academy appointment, the first ever to be considered by an Ohio Congressman, and which with its fulfillment will make political history and establish a far-reaching precedent, will begin in June 1939.

"There is nothing extraordinary in my intention", the Congressman remarked to the EAGE representative, "for there is in this intention of mine nothing more than simply an ardent desire to express in some tangible way to my thousands of Negro supporters, whose votes helped to send me to Congress two years ago, my deep and lasting appreciation for their support. To me it is a matter of great surprise that no former Congressman of the Twenty-Second District thought of appointing a Negro to Annapolis on account of the large number of Negro votes in the District which had steadily supported Republican Congressmen."

Smilingly, the Congressman added, "I guess you can call this intention of mine another sample of the New Deal."

In addition to the proposed recognition for Negroes, Congressman Fieger, who is now completing his first term in the Lower House at Washington, was an ardent supporter of the Hours and Wages Bill which "New Deal" measure gives to the Negroes of the South a wage basis equal to that of whites and the operation of which will go a long way towards equalizing and stabilizing the economic situation as it affects the Negro in that part of the country.

Congressman Fieger also showed his abiding interest in the Negro by his staunch support of the

Wagner-Van Nuys Anti-Lynching Bill which it will be recalled passed the House of Representatives by a substantial majority, but was filibustered to death in the Senate

*Cleveland, Ohio, Daily Times*  
October 10, 1938

## LOCAL NEGRO IS RANKED HIGH AT NAVAL STATION

A Chattanooga Negro youth, John Willie Crawford, stands second highest in intelligence and rank marks at the Norfolk training station, to which colored recruits are sent when enlisted here for service in the United States navy, it was revealed here yesterday. The Joseph E. Smith sixth-grade youth, here on leave, left yesterday for the Virginia station for assignment for four years as a mess attendant in the naval service.

Crawford, after passing local examinations as to intelligence and health, entrained for the Norfolk post and was assigned to a class of picked Negroes from various states who received training in boat drill, table set-up and officers' attention, with special instruction of gas mask usage, he said.

He will be sent to San Diego, Cal., after reaching the port of Norfolk.

Navy, Negroes in - 1938

# ELLIOT WILLIAMS IS NAMED BY CONGRESSMAN

New York may have a midshipman at the Naval Academy at Annapolis next year if Congressman Joseph A. Gavagan's recent nomination of Elliott Williams, 435 Convent Ave., is accepted.

If the Seventeen year-old youth is able to pass the examinations next year and if he is able to hurdle bars of discrimination which may be put in his path he will be the first New Yorker to be enrolled in the academy.

This is the second time that young Williams has been nominated by Congressman Gavagan, the first time being in 1937. Now enrolled in the New York Preparatory School, Mr. Williams attended P.S. 46, Junior High School 164 and George Washington High School. Born in Greenville, S.C., he has lived in New York since he was two years old.

"I am particularly interested in mathematics, the sciences, history and English," Mr. Williams told the Amsterdam News when he was interviewed on Tuesday. He has also taken extension courses in Spanish and French.

"I have no doubt, that I will pass the examination, he told the Amsterdam News although he said that he knew it was pretty stiff."

An energetic lad, young Williams is at present assistant to Warren Cochrane at the Harlem Branch of the Y.M.C.A., 180 West 135th Street. He has long been interested in naval maneuvers, he said, developing an interest in the sea when he was in the Junior Naval Guards in Harlem as a youngster.

"If I don't join the navy," he said, "I will probably become a reporter. I like newspaper work and was once cub reporter for the Amsterdam News."

His father, Henry Williams, now lives in Greenville, S.C., while his mother, Mrs. Georgia Williams, lives at the Convent Avenue address.

Amsterdam News  
August 20, 1938  
New York, N.Y.

## Gavagan Names New Middy

NEW YORK — Elliott Williams, 435 Convent Avenue, was nominated by Congressman Joseph A. Gavagan of the 21st District to the U.S. Naval Academy, Monday.

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Navy, Negroes in - 1938

# William A. Carr Only Race Chief Carolina Petty Officer In U.S. Coast Guard Lad Gets

The title "Chief Petty Officer" is an honor that every sailor in the U. S. Coast Guard tries to win, but few possess the prerequisites and that tenacious spirit required for victory. Such a possessor of these qualities and more is William A. Carr who has the distinction of being the only Race chief petty officer in the U. S. Coast Guard.

Bill, as he is known, is to the old 1932, after showing he was efficient, was born of poor, but honest, sober and a man of the highest calibre he was made a full-October, 1896. As a small boy he would sit on his father's lap and listen to stories of that wide and wondrous expanse called the sea.

**Thrilled by Sagas of Sea** Many a young chief petty officer has his father would have to tell him over and over, often twice of the time he was chief because of the almost unshipwrecked off the coast of South America and held captive by natives for more than seven years, until the intervention of the British obtained his release. This Bill tells me gave him the craving to also follow the sea.

When he was a strapping young man of 20 he bade his mother and father farewell and wrapping up a few of his belongings went to the calling of his heart, the sea. He enlisted in the Coast Guard as a boy, second class, and was assigned to the cutter, "Onondaga," stationed at Brunswick, Ga. On April 5, 1917, he was assigned to the U. S. S. Manning, attached to the Patrol Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet. The Manning during that time was in European waters acting as ocean military escort to merchant ship convoys that ran between Gibraltar and England.

By this time his honesty and integrity had gained him the promotion of Boy-1 class. After the big fire-works on the other side of the Atlantic in 1914 to 1918, he returned to his native shores again with promotion to wardroom steward. In 1924 Bill was promoted again, this time to petty officer, first class, and then the determination came



W. A. Carr

to him that he would never quit until he had won those much-coveted chevrons, chief petty officer, always having in mind the fact that no other black man before had been able to surmount that invisible line.

## Success At Last

The rating of C. P. O. was not to be had until after a hard and bitter struggle, for it is a class practically closed to the men of the Race. But Bill was not to be swerved from his aim, and in 1930 he was appointed acting chief, in 1932, after showing he was efficient, was born of poor, but honest, sober and a man of the highest calibre he was made a full-October, 1896. As a small boy he would sit on his father's lap and listen to stories of that wide and wondrous expanse called the sea.

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## NAVAL CAREER HIS AMBITION, YOUTH SAYS

## Jim Crow Policy No Deterrent

By WILLIAM FITZGERALD

NEW YORK, Sept. 1—(CNA)—Congressman Joseph A. Gavagan, New York Democrat, this week announced that he had nominated Elliot Williams, Harlem youth, as a candidate to the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis from the 21st Congressional District, New York.

Prior to Williams, the last Negro youth to be named to the academy was George L. Trivers, of Washington, D. C. He was nominated by Congressman Mitchell,

Negro Democrat of Illinois. Trivers successfully passed all educational and physical requirements and was admitted to the academy early last year. After a series of unpleasant experiences with racial discrimination, young Trivers finally resigned. He was the second Negro midshipman to be forced out of the academy within a year, Midshipman Lee Johnson having preceded him by a few months.

Elliot Williams is 18 and lives with his mother, Mrs. Georgia Williams, a dressmaker, at 435 Convent avenue. He graduated last January from the George Washington high school, where he specialized in subjects required by the naval school. Previously he completed in three years a four year course at Junior High 164.

## Interested in Navy

Young Williams, interviewed at his home, revealed that he has been interested in the navy as a career since he was ten years old. At that age he joined the Junior Naval Guards, of which he was a member for four years, receiving several commissions. He also played bugle in the band.

Although keenly interested in a Naval career, Elliott took a course in journalism at the high school of commerce at his mother's request.

In September, 1937, he wrote Representative Gavagan, telling him of his ambition to enter the Naval Academy. He received a sympathetic letter from the Congressman, and sometime later Gavagan asked him to call with his mother for an interview.

Elliot feels confident that he will pass the educational examination and the physical tests for the academy. The former will be held in February, 1939, the latter in June. Aware of the experiences of his predecessors, he is nevertheless optimistic about his prospects of eventually getting a commission in the Navy.

Elliot was born in Greenville, S. C., on Dec. 22, 1920. He came to New York at the age of two with his parents. His father, Henry Williams, who has worked variously as a bricklayer, commercial artist, mechanical dentist and rural school teacher, returned to South Carolina in 1920.

## Appointed

### Anti-Louche Bill Author Selects Elliot Williams

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## WROTE GAVAGAN

In September, 1937, he wrote Representative Gavagan, telling him of his ambition to enter the Naval Academy. He received a sympathetic letter from the Congressman, and sometime later Gavagan asked him to call with his mother for an interview.

Elliot feels confident that he will pass the educational examination and the physical tests for the Academy. The former will be held in February, 1939, the latter in June. Aware of the experiences of his predecessors, he is nevertheless optimistic about this prospects of eventually getting a commission in the Navy.

Elliot was born in Greenville, S. C., on December 22, 1920. He came to New York at the age of two with his parents. His father, Henry Williams, who has worked variously as a bricklayer, commercial artist, dentist and rural school teacher, returned to South Carolina in 1920.

Navy, Negroes in - 1938

Spartanburg Herald  
March 11, 1938

# NAVY TO ENLIST 6 HERE TUESDAY

## Negro Mess Attendants Are Desired for Enlistment at Spartan Station

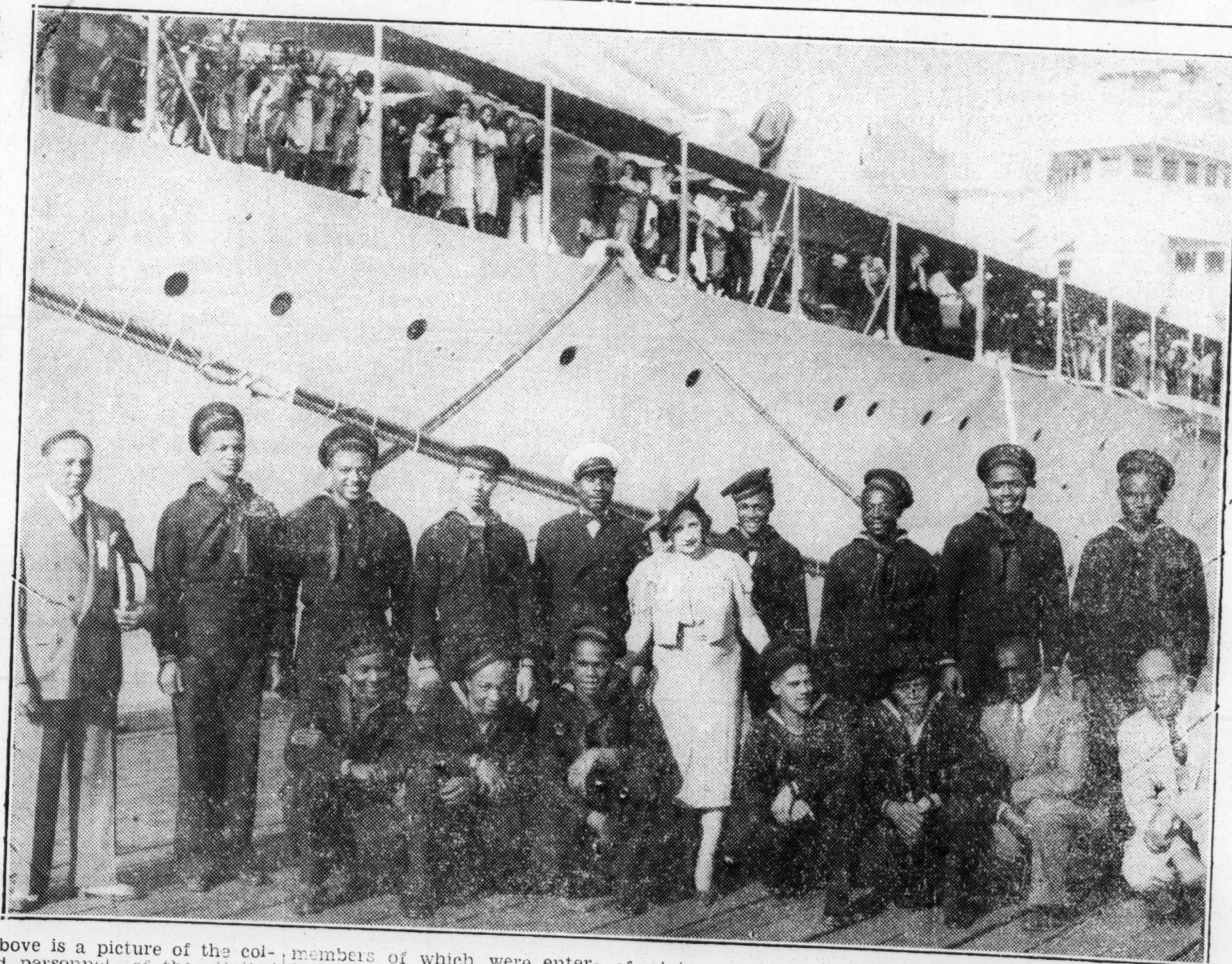
Six men will be enlisted next Tuesday, March 15, at the Spartanburg area navy recruiting station here.

Officers Clyde Jones and Joseph Colatrella yesterday said men to be enlisted would comprise the station's quota for this month, but that applicants were welcome to come to the station for conferences, and those acceptable would be enlisted in the next quotas, to be announced soon.

Those to be enlisted next Tuesday are all white men. A call for negro mess attendants was made yesterday.

Requirements for negro applicants include: Applicant must have a seventh grade education or better, must apply in person, be an American citizen, be not less than 18 years of age and under 26 years of age when enlisted, obtain written consent of parent or guardian if under 21 years of age, be unmarried, of good habits and character, have no criminal record and pass a rigid physical examination.

## COLORED PERSONNEL OF THE UNITED STATES CRUISER SAVANNAH



Above is a picture of the colored personnel of the United States Cruiser Savannah which came into port last week to participate in the Fleet Week ceremonies during which a silver service was presented to the trim warship by the citizenry of Savannah. The crew of the beautiful vessel was royally feted during the five days they were here. The colored members of which were entertained by a special committee of colored citizens appointed by Mayor Hitch. In the picture with the sailors are four members of the committee, Chairman Frank Callen, John Seaware, Mrs. Frank Callen and Norris Rush, and also on ship deck is seen a portion of the vast crowd that visited the vessel here. Thirteen of the complement of sixteen colored sailors on the ship are shown in the picture, which was taken beside the ship. The entire colored personnel of the ship is as follows: S. Martin of St. Thomas, Virgin Islands; J. A. Moore, Smithfield, N. C.; R. F. Ridley of Norfolk, Va.; J. Q. Wagner of Baltimore, Md.; M. L. Thompson of Tulsa, Okla.; H. M. Comfort of Philadelphia, Pa.; J. O. Mathes, Grand Rapids, Mich.; N. Colvin of Birmingham, Ala.; H. H. Hunter, Miami, Fla.; J. H. Lay of Harrocksburg, Ky.; L. Criner of Wichita Falls, Texas; C. Brumens of Chester, Pa.; G. Washington, Dayton, Ohio; O. Scott of Cleveland, Ohio; C. R. Reynolds of Houston, Texas, and P. H. Roberts of Asheville, N. C.

## RETIRES, RETURNS TO COAST



Mr. and Mrs. Norman Parker ready for motor trip to San Diego, Cal. Mr. Parker is retiring after twenty years with the U.S. Navy as chief commissary steward. For the past three years he has been stationed at Annapolis, Md.

### QUOTA FOR COLORED BOYS IN NAVY IS DOUBLED

Word has been received from the Navy Department, Washington, D.C., that the quota for colored boys for enlistment in the U. S. Navy has been doubled for the fiscal year, 1939. This means that there will be approximately twenty enlistments each month from the Carolinas.

The local Navy Recruiter will be glad to furnish information to interested persons if they will call or write to U. S. Navy Recruiting Station, Post Office Bldg., Florence, S. C.

### NAVY DEPARTMENT QUOTA COLORED BOYS INCREASED

Word has been received from the Navy Department, Washington, D.C., that the quota of colored boys for enlistment in the U. S. Navy from the Carolinas has been doubled for the fiscal year, 1939. This means there will be approximately twenty enlistments each month.

The Florence Navy Recruiter will be glad to furnish information to interested persons if they will call or write to: U. S. Navy Recruiting Station, Post Office Building, Florence, S. C.

# Race Youth Not Considered In Navy's Need of Added Personnel

## An Increase of 5,570 Men Needed To Man New Naval Units; Colored Limited To Mess Attendant Jobs

By LOUIS LAUTIER

WASHINGTON, D. C.—According to Admiral William C. Leahy, Chief of Naval Operations, the United States Navy requires additional personnel if its efficiency is to be maintained.

The fundamental naval policy of the United States as restated by the Secretary of the Navy, is to maintain the Navy sufficient strength to support national policies and commerce and to guard the continental and overseas possessions of this country.

### HIGHEST EFFICIENCY NEEDED

To support this policy the operations of the naval forces are planned so as to exercise and train the units of the fleet to the highest state of efficiency, to organize the Navy for operations in either or both oceans so that expansion only will be necessary in the event of national emergency, to protect American lives and interests in disturbed areas, to cooperate fully with other Government departments, to cultivate friendly international relations, and to encourage civil industries and activities useful in war.

"The present moment is not one when the United States can safely reduce its means for national defense without jeopardizing our national security," Admiral Leahy told a congressional committee recently.

"The political conditions in the world, both in Europe and in the Far East, are more threatening than at any time since 1918, and are distinctly worse than a year ago. In China a major conflict is in progress involving grave danger to American citizens. The civil war in Spain continues unabated and the possibility of a general European conflict is ever present.

### MUST MAINTAIN DEFENSE

"We must continue to maintain our existing national defense establishments at their highest efficiency, complete as soon as possible and practicable the projects now under way to improve or augment the existing establishments, and provide those features which are still lacking and which are vital to the efficiency of the national defense at sea."

Appropriations for the current fiscal year provide for an increase of 5,570 men in naval enlisted personnel and 1,000 in Marine enlisted personnel. Indications are that 3 light cruisers, 18 destroyers, and 2 submarines will be placed in commission, increasing the numerical strength of the fleet. These vessels are larger and more powerful units than the old types they replace and need larger complements to man them effectively.

It is also proposed to commission one ammunition ship and two mine sweepers. These vessels are needed because a large increase in the number of vessels in the fleet, particularly aircraft carriers, heavy and light cruisers, without any increase over a period of years in base force facilities which provide all manner of service to the operating fleet of combatant ships.

"The fleet will fall short of the required efficiency if the necessary personnel is not provided to man the vessels in active service and to provide for the necessary reserves and aviation cadets," declared Admiral Leahy.

### APPROPRIATIONS SHORT

Current appropriations do not provide full war complements for all vessels in commission. Capable operating personnel, it was pointed out, is developed only by months of training. The peacetime complement is 85 per cent, except that some ships, such as submarines, vessels on the Asiatic station, and some tender and repair ships, carry full complements.

Admiral Leahy also maintains that the strength of the fleet marine force should be built up gradually. The fleet marine force is an important unit of the fleet in providing a force immediately available to occupy and defend remote outlying points in United States territory that may have to be used by the fleet or to seize and hold advance bases needed by the fleet.

He also insists that an adequate reserve of naval and Marine Corps personnel is essential for war operations and the number of aviation cadets authorized in the appropriations is urgently needed for existing aviation units in the fleet. The aviation cadets will ultimately form a part of naval aviation reserve personnel.

### NEGROES AS ATTENDANTS

Notwithstanding the urgent need for additional personnel for naval operations, unless there is a change in traditional naval policy, only a sufficient number of colored men will be recruited in the Navy to supply mess attendants. None will be recruited in the Marine Corps.

If colored people themselves want a larger share in the national defense program, military and naval, now is the proper time to seek it while a program of expansion is being carried on.